Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 10-19 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/107,924 (filed June 30, 1998), which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/533,584, filed October 18, 1995 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,772,451), which is a continuation-in-part of ~~commonly-owned, copending~~ U.S. Patent Application No. 08/452,255 (hereinafter "PARENT CASE"), filed 5/26/95 ~~(status: pending)~~ (now U.S. Patent No. 6,336,269), which is a continuation-in-part of ~~commonly-owned, copending~~ U.S. Patent Application No. 08/340,144, filed 11/15/94 ~~(status: pending) and its counterpart PCT patent application number PCT/US94/13373 filed 11/16/94 (published 26 May 95 as WO 95/14314), both of which are continuations-in-part of commonly-owned, copending~~ (now U.S. Patent No. 5,917,707), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/152,812, filed 11/16/93 ~~(status: pending/allowed)~~ (now U.S. Patent No. 5,476,211).

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 20-22 with the following amended paragraph:

~~This~~ The aforementioned U.S. Patent Application No. 08/533,584 is also a continuation-in-part of ~~commonly-owned, copending~~ U.S. Patent Application No. 08/526,246, filed 9/21/95 ~~(status: pending)~~ (abandoned).